

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/712,005

Examiner

Quang N. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

SHETH ET AL.

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment After Final filed on 07/16/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 52-66.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

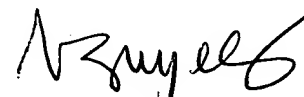
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



Quang N. Nguyen  
Patent Examiner - AU 2141

***Examiner's Amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with the Applicant's Representative, Mr. Thomas Van Zandt (Reg. No. 43,219), on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

3. Please amend claims 52, 54, 58 and 63 as below:

**Claim 52. (Currently amended)** An access server capable of allowing subscribers of a communications system to gain exclusive access to a domain site associated with a virtual circuit, said access server comprising:

a memory device capable of storing a domain list table and a tunnel ID table, said domain list table including a plurality of virtual circuit identifiers and associated domain site identifiers, said tunnel ID table including a plurality of domain names and associated tunnel IDs;

an authorized domain list determiner capable of determining an authorized domain list based upon said domain list table and a domain site identifier with a **PPP Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP)** authentication request, said PPP authentication request received on a virtual circuit having a virtual circuit identifier;

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an assessor capable of determining whether said domain site identifier within said PPP authentication request is in said **authorized** domain list;

a tunnel ID determiner capable of determining a tunnel ID based upon said tunnel ID table and said domain site identifier; and

an authorizer capable of granting subscribers domain site access based upon said authorized domain list.

**Claim 54. (Currently amended)** The access server of claim 53 wherein said tunneling session comprises an ~~L2TP~~ **Layer 2 Tunneling Protocol (L2PT)** session.

**Claim 58. (Currently amended)** The method of claim 57 wherein said authorized domain list request is serviced by an AAA **Authentication, Authorization and Accounting (AAA)** server; and  
an **said** AAA server services said tunnel ID request.

**Claim 63. (Currently amended)** The method of claim 62 wherein said authorized domain list request is serviced by an AAA server; and  
an **said** AAA server services said tunnel ID request.

4. Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

-- METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING SUBSCRIBER ACCESS IN A NETWORK CAPABLE OF ESTABLISHING CONNECTIONS WITH A PLURALITY OF DOMAIN SITES --

5. Claims 52-66 are allowed over the prior art of records.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of records, individually or in combination, fail to teach, suggest or render obvious the claimed invention as recited in independent claims 52, 57, 60, 62 and 65.

Specially, the features as recited in independent claims 52, 57, 60, 62 and 65 *"determining whether said subscriber is authorized to access said domain site based upon said domain site identifier and a list of authorized domain sites for a virtual circuit through which said L2TP session is received, said determining comprising: issuing an authorized domain list request including a virtual circuit identifier; receiving an authorized domain list that includes domain site identifiers of authorized domain sites for said virtual circuit identifier; indicating said domain site is unauthorized when said domain site identifier included in said L2PT session is not in said authorized domain list; indicating said domain site is authorized when said domain site identifier is in said authorized domain list; issuing a tunnel ID request including said domain site identifier when said domain site is authorized; receiving a tunnel ID; and assigning said tunnel ID; and authorizing subscriber access to said domain site when said domain site identifier is included in said authorized domain site list, wherein said L2PT session is forwarded onto a tunnel associated with said tunnel ID when said subscriber is authorized to access said domain site"*, when taken in the context of the claims as a whole, was not uncovered in the prior art of records.

Nor were references uncovered that would have provided a basis of evidence for asserting a motivation that one of ordinary skill level in the art at the time the invention was made, knowing of a system (access server) and method for controlling subscriber access in a network capable of establishing connections with a plurality of domain sites, would have integrated or modified to teach the system and method for determining whether said subscriber is authorized to access said domain site based upon said domain site identifier and a list of authorized domain sites for a virtual circuit through which said L2TP session is received and authorizing subscriber access to said domain site when said domain site identifier is included in said authorized domain site list, wherein said L2TP session is forwarded onto a tunnel associated with said tunnel ID when said subscriber is authorized to access said domain site, including the specific features recited in the context of independent claims 52, 57, 60, 62 and 65.

Dependent claims further limit the allowed independent claims, therefore, they are also allowed.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should clearly labeled "Comments on Examiner's Amendment".

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's SPE, Rupal Dharia, can be reached at (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Quang N. Nguyen  
Patent Examiner  
AU - 2141